

other shells except direct hits. The shelters are all provided with gas curtains, which are to be lowered in case of gas attack. The entrance and curtains are made and arranged like we made them at Camp Sevier.

Lieutenant Barnes was in his shelter, and had taken care of several of our Lieutenants, who have been attached to this Royal Engineer Company. The shelter was a double one, the front portion being used by the Officers for a mess room.

I felt very sorry for Lieutenant Barnes. He had been told that he was to get off for two weeks to attend some Army school and he had made all his plans for leaving, had told the other officers and the men that he was going, and was sure he was going to get out of the turmoil for a couple of weeks. Today he was notified that another officer would be sent to the school and he would not go. It nearly broke him up. He tried very hard not to show it and to pass it off as if it made no difference to him, but he was nervous and shaky and I could see that the thought of going had meant a very great deal to him.

By this time it was between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. and Lieutenant Barnes insisted that we must not leave until we had had TEA. So we were served tea in the dugout. We had good hot tea, bread and butter and jam. Served by a British soldier, on perfectly clean, white table cloth. We sat around the table and it was hard to realize that we were up front and subject to German shell fire. Major Humphries, who is in command of the Royal Engineer Company stationed here, came in just before tea, and also Major Land, who is in command of the Royal Engineer Company at Brake Camp, but who is now acting Commander Royal Engineers of the 49th Division. The tea and lunch tasted fine and we all enjoyed it except Lieutenant Barnes; he did not want anything. We left this camp about 5:30 p.m. and planned to come back by way of Vlamertinghe in order to look over a dump of camouflage material back of the Club Building. We came down to the main Ypres-Vlamertinghe road and turned west. This road is subjected to frequent shelling and we expected some. We passed Shrapnel Crossing and Gold Fish Chateau without any special incident. This Chateau was (and is) owned by a German and up to the present time has not been struck by a shell. From this point to Vlamertinghe we did not waste much time on the road. Several shells had hit shortly before on